

Message Text

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PAGE 01 TRIPOL 00750 080828Z

ACTION NEA-10

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FM AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4453

INFO AMEMBASSY ALGIERS

AMEMBASSY AMMAN

USINT BAGHDAD

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

AMEMBASSY RABAT

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

AMEMBASSY TUNIS

AMEMBASSY VALLETTA

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PLO, LY

SUBJ: PALESTINIAN ENGINEERS FEDERATION CONFERENCE

1. THE FIRST CONFERENCE OF THE PALESTINIAN ENGINEERS FEDERATION ENDED HERE IN TRIPOLI JUNE 2 WITH THE ENGINEERS UNANIMOUSLY SUPPORTING THE POSITION OF THE REJECTIONIST FRONT OF THE PLO ON THE QUESTION OF A PEACE SETTLEMENT WITH ISRAEL. IN A FINAL STATEMENT ISSUED AT THE END OF THEIR FOUR DAY CONFERENCE THE ENGINEERS STATED THAT THE PALESTINIAN REVOLUTION WAS AIMED AT THE LIBERATION OF ALL OF PALESTINIAN NATIONAL SOIL THROUGH A LONG TERM PEOPLE'S WAR AND THAT THEY REJECTED ALL "SURRENDER AND DEFEATIST RESOLUTIONS AIMED AT STOPPING THE PALESTINIAN REVOLUTION FROM ITS STRUGGLE."

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PAGE 02 TRIPOL 00750 080828Z

THE CONFERENCE'S FINAL DECLARATION EXPRESSED ADHERENCE TO COMMENTS MADE BY COL. QADHAFI AT THE CONFERENCE'S OPENING IN WHICH THE COLONEL INDICATED THAT LIBYA SUPPORTED THE PLO REJECTIONIST POSITION. THE PALESTINIAN ENGINEERS STATEMENT REJECTED "ALL LIQUIDATION PLANS, RESOLUTIONS, SCHEMES AND CONFERENCES ESPECIALLY THE SO-CALLED PEACE CONFERENCE AIMED AT

THE PERPETUATION OF RACIST ZIONIST ENTITY AND ITS RECOGNITION." THE ENGINEERS STATED THEIR COMMITMENT TO THE PALESTINIAN POLITICAL PROGRAM WAS "BASED ON THE NATIONAL CHARTER OF THE PLO AND ALL AFFILIATED RESOLUTIONS." THEY CALLED FOR AN ESCALATION OF THE CONFLICT WITH "THE ZIONIST ENEMY, ESPECIALLY INSIDE THE OCCUPIED HOMELAND, THROUGH A LONG TERM WAR DEPENDING ON ORGANIZING MASSES FOR THE LIBERATION OF ALL PALESTINIAN SOIL AND THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A PALESTINIAN DEMOCRATIC STATE SO AS TO ESTABLISH THE UNIFIED ARAB SOCIETY."

2. THE CONFERENCE PARTICIPANTS EXPRESSED ADHERENCE OF PALESTINIAN ARMED REVOLUTION WITH THE "JORDANIAN NATIONAL MOVEMENT" TO TRANSFORM THE TWO INTO A "SOLID REVOLUTIONARY BASE" FOR FIGHTING ISRAEL AND ITS SUPPORTERS. THE PALESTINIAN ENGINEERS ALSO STATED THEIR DESIRE TO STENGTHEN RELATIONS BETWEEN THE PALESTINIAN NATIONAL LIBERATION MOVEMENT, INTERNATIONAL LIBERATION MOVEMENTS, SOCIALIST COUNTRIES AND "INTER-NATIONAL PROGRESSIVE FORCES AND FRIENDLY COUNTRIES." THE ENGINEERS FINAL STATEMENT ASSERTED THAT THEIR STRUGGLE WOULD LEAD TO "THE LIQUIDATION OF IMPERIALISM, ITS ECONOMIC INTERESTS SUCH AS OIL AND STRATEGIC POSITIONS."

3. IN ADDITION TO THE PALESTINIAN PARTICIPATION, THE CONFERENCE WAS ATTENDED BY ENGINEERING ASSOCIATIONS FROM THE SOVIET UNION, BULGARIA, YUGOSLAVIA, GREECE, LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PAGE 03 TRIPOL 00750 080828Z

CYPRUS, POLAND, VIETNAM, TUNISIA, IRAQ, SYRIA, JORDAN AND ALGERIA. THE CONFERENCE WAS CHAIRED BY DR. FALAH JISR, THE CHAIRMAN OF THE PALESTINIAN ENGINEERING SOCIETY. OTHER LEADERS OF THE CONFERENCE INCLUDED THE SECRETARY GENERAL OF THE INTERNATIONAL ENGINEERING ASSOCIATION (ARAB) ASSADQ BEN JUMAH, AND THE CHAIRMAN OF THE ARAB GEOLOGIST FEDERATION, IRAQI NATIONAL SAMI SHARIF.

4. WITHIN 72 HOURS OF THE CONFERENCE'S FINAL SESSION AND DECLARED SUPPORT FOR THE PLO REJECTIONIST FRONT, PLO CHAIRMAN YASSIR ARAFAT ARRIVED IN TRIPOLI ACCOMPANIED BY FAROUQ QADDOUMI CHIEF OF THE PLO'S POLITICAL BUREAU. THE TWO PLO OFFICIALS MET WITH LIBYAN SECRETARY OF LIAISON TAHA SHARIF BEN AMER AND LIBYAN SECRETARY OF EDUCATION MOHAMMED SHARIF. ARAFAT AND QADDOUMI MET JUNE 5 WITH LIBYAN MAJOR JALLOUD.

5. COMMENT: ARAFAT'S ARRIVAL IN TRIPOLI IN THE WAKE OF THE PRO-REJECTIONIST FRONT STANCE TAKEN BY THE

PALESTINAIN ENGINEERS CONFERENCE, WHICH REPORTEDLY
REFLECTS LIBYAN GOVERNMENT SUPPORT FOR THE REJECTIONIST
FRONT'S POSITON, SUGGESTS THAT THE PLO CHAIRMAN IS
HERE TO REASSURE HIMSELF OF LIBYA'S SUPPORT FOR
ARAFAT-LED MODERATE ELEMENTS IN THE PLO. QADHAFI'S
MOST RECENT UTTERANCES ON THE POSITION OF LIBYA
VIS-A-VIS ELEMENTS OF THE PLO MAY BE TEMPERED BY
ARAFAT'S PRESENCE. YET THERE IS NO INDICATION THUS
FAR IN LOCAL MEDIA THAT THE PLO CHAIRMAN HAS MET
WITH COL. QADHAFI.
CARLE

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